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DIGITAL STILL CAMERA WITH HIGH-QUALITY PORTRAIT MODE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A digital still camera (10) receives and digitizes visible radiation (17) and sound waves (32) from a scene (12). When an operator actuates a shutter release (46), the camera detects and evaluates digitized information (22, 38) from the scene in a continuing manner, until a point in time when information representative of a human facial characteristic satisfies a specified criteria set by the operator through use of switches (47, 48) and a display (51). The camera then records in a memory (59) a digital image of the scene, which corresponds to the point in time. The stored image is a high-quality image, which can avoid characteristics such as eyes that are closed or a mouth that is open.